

Application No.: 10/677,288
Art Unit: 3676

Attorney Docket No. 21593.00
Confirmation No. 9642

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 7 with the following:

--Referring to Fig. 1, there is shown the inventive wheel locking device **5** installed on a trailer, thereby preventing wheel rotation and, therefore, preventing theft of the trailer **20**. The trailer wheels **50** are modular in construction, having a series of openings **40** defined therein. The rod **10** of the locking device **5** spans the width of the trailer through the wheel openings shown.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 9 with the following:

--A lock seat recess **60** is cut in thrust washer **52** through outer face **54** for receiving the housing of lock **12**(see Fig. 7). Figs. 5-7 show the thrust washer **52** in more detail. Thrust washer **52** is circular in shape and has an outer face **54** and a radial mounting slot **56** having side walls **62** and a semi-circular center wall **64** sized to fit within thrust washer receiving groove **58** in rod **10**. A lock seat recess **60** extends radially from an intermediate point along mounting slot **56** to the opposite periphery of thrust washer **52**. Lock seat recess **60** has sidewalls **68** and end walls **70** and the surface thereof extends along the length of mounting slot **56** forming grooves **65** between mounting slot groove walls **66**--

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Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 9 with the following:

--In operation, trail wheel lock assembly **5** is installed by sliding washer **16** onto rod **10** to rest against permanent stop **38 18**. The rod **10** is inserted through corresponding openings in wheels installed on opposite ends of a common axle. Another washer **14** is installed over the head end of the rod **10** and slid along rod **10** to rest against the outer side of the wheel. The lock **12** is locked over the head end **32** of the rod **12**. In the case of modular wheels there is customarily a circle of relatively small openings spaced inward from the rim of the wheel and no washers are necessary for installation as long as the stop **10** and the lock **12** are larger than the openings. Alternatively, washers **16** and **14** may be relatively small in diameter. In the case of spoked wheels, the rod is inserted between the spokes and larger diameter washers **16** and **14** may be necessary to assure that the assembly cannot be pulled through the wheels between the spokes.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 3 with the following:

--In the second embodiment, the rod **10** has a circumferential thrust washer receiving groove **58** spaced from the head end **32** of rod **10**. After installation of the rod **10** and washers **16** and **14**, thrust washer **52** is installed on rod **10** over groove **58** by sliding along radial mounting slot **56** until centered against semi-circular center wall **64** which fits into receiving groove **58**. The housing of lock **12** is then installed on the head of rod **10** by means of lock aperture **36** and the inner end of the housing seated into corresponding lock seat **60** of thrust washer **58 52** and then secured by turning a key, thereby locking lock **12** onto rod head end **32**--

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Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 14 with the following:

--The lock **12** is a conventional rod receiver sliding lock, and may have a pin tumbler, wafer disc, or any other conventional internal mechanism within the housing. Advantageously, the lock **12** is not of the padlock variety, and, therefore does not have ~~and~~ any exposed shackle, and presents more of a deterrent to thieves and vandals. A lock useful with the present invention is the Gorilla Guard™ Receiver Lock, commercially available from Fulton Performance Products, Mosinee, Wisconsin.--